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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR/Iran

DATE DISTR. 7 JUL 50

SUBJECT Estimate of Soviet War Plans in the Lenkoran Sector

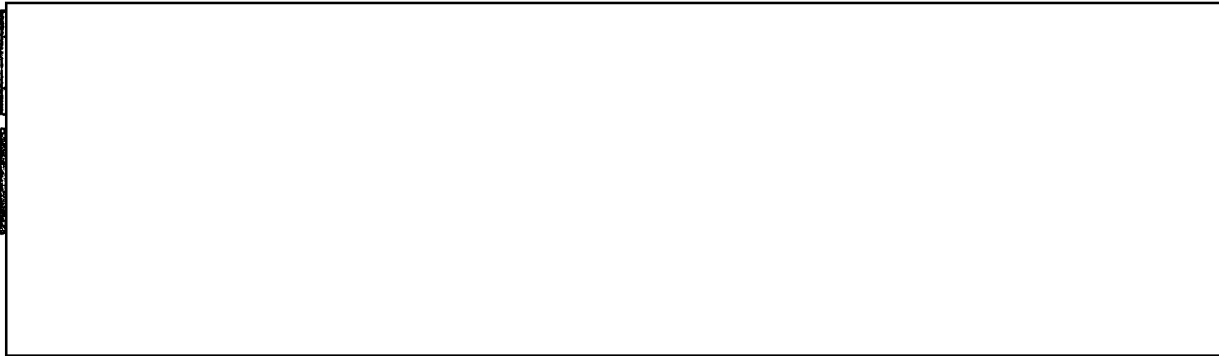
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



1. Based on an analysis of recent changes in Soviet border installations west of Lenkoran (38-45N, 48-50E) [] in the event of a Soviet attack against Iran, operations in this sector would develop as follows:

- a. Fast-moving units now presumably based in the Soviet Moghan Steppe would enter Iran via the Moghan border, aiming at Ahar (38-27N, 47-09E), Tabriz, Khiov (Mishgin, 38-23N, 47-41E), and Ardebil (38-14N, 48-18E).
- b. Slow-moving mountain troops would enter Iran between Diman (Daiman, 38-51N, 48-03E) and Shandan (approximately 38-25N, 48-35E) to exercise pressure on the Ardebil Brigade.
- c. The front between Belyasuvar (39-22N, 48-22E) and Diman and between Shandan and Astara would remain static.

2. [] estimate on the following observations:

- a. The Moghan Steppe border between Tazakend (approximately 39-42N, 47-59E), i. e., the Araxes River, and Belyasuvar, i. e., the Balarrud (River) is lightly held by no more than 5 or 6 Soviet "observation" posts.
- b. The Balarrud/Adineh Rud* border (see Attachment) from Belyasuvar to Diman is strongly fortified and held by no less than 60 Soviet posts, i. e., posts observed from the Iranian side. Actually there may be even more posts in depth in the immediate vicinity of the border.
- c. In the mountainous region extending from Diman to Shandan, the Soviets occupy the line of crests and have built mostly observation posts. Their defensive installations appear to be rather light.
- d. In the Astara Valley from Shandan to Astara on the Caspian, the Soviets have 25 posts along the border and are currently engaging in what appears to be an intensive fortification program.

Comment: Streams are called by different names according to the section considered. Thus, in the vicinity of Adishe (also known as Adineh Bazar, 39-10N, 48-15E), the border stream is known as the Adineh Bazar Rud; the same stream in the vicinity of Belyasuvar is known as the Balarrud, not Bolgar Chai or Rud.

Attachment: Lenkoran Sector of the Soviet-Iranian Frontier
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